Amendments to and listing of the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.   (Original) A receiving apparatus comprising:

an operation section to which an information receiving command is input,

a communication section for transmitting transmission request information for requesting the transmission of the information input to said operation section to multiple storage apparatuses and for sequentially receiving divided information blocks obtained by dividing said information and transmitted from said multiple storage apparatuses,

a selection section for selecting only said divided information block received first from one of said storage apparatuses or a predetermined group of said divided information blocks with respect to each of said divided information blocks received by said communication section or each predetermined group of said divided information blocks, and

an output section for outputting said divided information block or the predetermined group of said divided information blocks selected by said selection section.

2.   (Original) A receiving apparatus in accordance with claim 1, wherein said communication section transmits, to a management apparatus, address information transmission request information for requesting the address information of said storage apparatuses in which said information is stored, receives the address information of said multiple storage apparatuses from said management apparatus and transmits transmission request information for requesting the transmission of said information to said multiple storage apparatuses on the basis of said address information.

3.   (Currently Amended) A receiving system wherein said management apparatus, said multiple storage apparatuses and said receiving apparatus set forth in claim 1 [[or 2]] are connected via a communication network.

4.   (Original) A receiving method comprising:

an operation input step of inputting an information receiving command,

a transmission request step of transmitting transmission request information for

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requesting the transmission of said information to multiple storage apparatuses,

a divided information receiving step of sequentially receiving divided information blocks obtained by dividing said information and transmitted from said multiple storage apparatuses,

a selection step of selecting only said divided information block received first from one of said storage apparatus or a predetermined group of said divided information blocks with respect to each of said divided information blocks or each predetermined group of said divided information blocks, and

an output step of outputting said divided information block or the predetermined group of said divided information blocks having been selected.

5.   (Original) A receiving method in accordance with claim 4, further comprising:

an address information transmission requesting step for transmitting, to a management apparatus, address information transmission request information for requesting the address information of said storage apparatuses in which said information is stored, and

an address information receiving step of receiving the address information of said multiple storage apparatuses from said management apparatus, wherein

in said transmission requesting step, said transmission request information is transmitted to said multiple storage apparatuses on the basis of said address information having been received.